

**Traffic Safety Advisory Committee**  
**January 14, 2013**  
**Minutes**

Present :       Gil Archambault – Chairman  
                  Ricky Riendeau – Vice Chairman, DPW Director  
                  Gary Daniels – Board of Selectmen Representative  
                  Michael Viola – Police Chief  
                  Richard Tortorelli – Retired Fire Chief  
                  Dave Wheeler – Executive Councilor

Secretary:       Mindy Lavallee, Recording Secretary

1.   *Roll Call vote required by the BOS.*

**NEW/OLD BUSINESS:**

2.   *Make final recommendations re: resident Concerns with speeding on Cottage St. and Prospect St. (BOS)*

G. Archambault said he contacted Joanie Laychak of Prospect St and David Osborn of Cottage St to let them know that final recommendations would be forwarded to the BOS following this meeting.

He then went on to discuss Cottage St. He said it was stated at the last meeting that DPW would possibly put up a chevron sign at the curve on the road. He asked if the sign

R. Riendeau clarified that the signage was not his idea but rather a request of the residents on this street. He said he was waiting to see if the BOS felt this was an appropriate course of action.

G. Daniels said Chief Viola had placed patrols in this area and did not find anyone going over the speed limit.

R. Tortorelli said he does not believe there are any speed limit signs on the street.

R. Riendeau said signage is not required according to the Ordinance.

R. Tortorelli said that if there were speed limit signs at both ends of the street, it may help with the speeding issues. It is an enforcement issue.

R. Riendeau said the only type of signage that could be placed on Prospect St are chevrons at the curve.

D. Tortorelli said, because the speed limit is covered under the Ordinance and there is not a history of accidents in the area, the Committee should not recommend putting up signage.

G. Daniels added that the issues can be taken under advisement. It is important to stay consistent in regards to signage requests from citizens.

R. Riendeau added that putting up additional signage would most likely not make a significant difference.

D. Wheeler confirmed that he agreed with the Committee's decision.

G. Archambault said that Selectman Kathy Bauer had requested that the Committee discuss the Town's disposition to "Children and Play" and "Slow Children" signage.

G. Daniels added that the issue was brought to Bill Drescher, Town council, in the past, and it was relayed that such signage did put the Town at risk for liability. Such signage implies that Town is allowing for children to play in the roads.

D. Tortorelli said that the BOS could choose to seek Town council on the matter once again, if they felt it was necessary.

G. Daniels said its important for the Town to be consistent. He said there is also nothing that prevents a citizen from purchasing and erecting a sign of this nature, at their own expense; would this still put a liability on the Town?

D. Tortorelli said he didn't believe the Town would be liable if a citizen erected their own sign.

R. Riendeau said he has never put up signage of this nature, and statewide, these types of signs are not going up.

G. Daniels said he believed if the sign didn't look like a typical road sign, then the liability would not be there.

G. Archambault agreed that the Committee should remain consistent.

G. Archambault moved on to Prospect St. He asked Committee members is anyone was aware of whether or not Chief Viola had increased patrols in the area, as had been discussed at the last TSC meeting.

D. Tortorelli said he spoke to a resident of Prospect St., who confirmed there had been an increase in police presense, especially near Phillips Way. He also spoke with resident Ron Bosse, who said he had seen less trucks travelling through the area.

R. Riendeau said he also doubled the 'Do Not Enter' sign coming in to Ledgewood. There are now two signs on each side of the street to indicate the one-way.

G. Daniels said he has not heard any complaints come in.

G. Archambault said the Committee should discuss the confusion about the speed limit being 25mph or 30mph.

Chief Viola arrived at the meeting and confirmed that he sent letters to Henry Halverson, the Association president for Ledgewood, as well as to the Ledgewood Bay Assited Living facility. He learned that this is an ongoing issue with the Assoication, as residents have issues making a left turn onto the main road. He confirmed that the PD conducted patrols for two weeks in the area. He will be attending the next Association meeting to follow-up. He said he also spoke to Bill Parker regarding County Stores; they are planning on requesting that oversize vehicles not be permmitted to park in the spaces nearest the road.

G. Daniels said that the reality is, it is a busy intersection.

D. Wheeler said the addition of the turning lane has helped.

G. Archambault asked Chief Viola his opinion about the speed limit on Prospect St.

M. Viola said the biggest issue is cars speeding as they come down the hill. Even with a speed limit of 25mph, most cars will do 30mph.

G. Archambault asked the TSC what they would recommend to the BOS.

R. Riendeau said he would not have an issue changing it to 25mph, as it is a small street with a tough corner.

M. Viola agreed.

D. Wheeler asked where the speed limit sign would be placed; at the bottom of the hill?

R. Riendeau said yes.

D. Wheeler asked, if one were travelling down the hill, where would the sign be placed?

R. Riendeau said we could put a sign up at Gilson St, prior to the hill.

G. Daniels said the only way residents can get out, because they can't come down Phillip's Way, in order to get in they have to pass the 25mph sign anyway, before Webster St.

R. Riendeau said he would put the sign before Webster St.

G. Daniels said the sign would need to be at the bottom of the hill, where it is a dead end, in order for the entire street to be 25mph. However, no one would see a sign at a dead end.

D. Tortorelli said more than one sign would need to be posted.

D. Wheeler asked if the speed limit would be enforceable with only one sign at the bottom of the hill?

M. Viola said yes, as long as it is posted.

D. Wheeler asked, is it safe to assume that if the sign is at the end of the street, it covers the entire street?

M. Viola said yes.

R. Riendeau said the TSC's recommendation should be that we would support the 25mph speed limiy if the BOS feels the same way.

G. Daniels added that if in time it is felt that a second sign is needed, it can be discussed by the BOS.

G. Archambault asked for the Committee's input regarding the citizen's request at the last meeting to change Phillips Way from public use to emergency use only. It was clarified that Bill Parker recommended that the citizen bring his request to the BOS, and the TSC would not need to be involved.

### *3. Approval of Minutes from November 26, 2012*

G. Archambault requested that the minutes be changed to reflect the correct title for D. Tortorelli. He asked that "Retired firefighter", line 9, be changed to "Retired Fire Chief".

D. Wheeler requested that lines 97 and 98 be removed. He read into the record his corrected version of the minutes.

R. Riendeau made a motion to approve the minutes with the amendments.

M. Viola seconded the motion.

All were in favor. Minutes from the 11/26/12 meeting were approved.

D. Wheeler requested that a copy of the amended minutes could be sent to the Planning Board prior to their 1/15/13 meeting.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

##### *4. History and makeup of the TSC/Election of officers*

G. Archambault asked the Committee for recommendations for a new Chairman and Vice Chairman.

D. Tortorelli made a motion to reappoint G. Archambault as Chairman and R. Rienduea as Vice Chairman.

D. Wheeler seconded the motion. All were in favor.

G. Archambault asked about the status of the appointment of more alternates to the Committee.

G. Daniels said that rather than have members directly from the Fire, Ambulance, etc., it was decided that if their input was needed, they could be brought into the meeting on a case-by-case basis.

Chairman Archambault made a motion to adjourn. D. Tortorelli seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 5pm.